

## 2015-J666

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Diane Riegal upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award by The Professional Women of Sullivan County

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Diane Riegal has given not only of her time and energies but also of her competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Diane Riegal upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award by The Professional Women of Sullivan County, celebrated at its Woman of the Year Dinner, on Sunday, March 22, 2015, at the Eagle's Nest, Bloomingburg, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1919, the mission of Professional Women of Sullivan County, Inc. (PWSC) is to promote New York State women as participants in the workforce, support of pay equity, and encourage economic self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, PWSC, Inc. provides its members with programs designed to enhance their knowledge and awareness of community, political, and health issues; they work together to advance the personal, professional, and political development of its members and work at providing a vital link to other working women in our communities; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of the State University of New York (SUNY) at Sullivan and New York University, Diane Riegal earned her Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix; and

WHEREAS, From 1985-1989, Diane Riegal and her husband owned a bed and breakfast in Livingston Manor, New York; additionally, she was the Busi-

ness Manager at Light and Life Christian School from 1998-2010; and WHEREAS, Diane Riegal also worked at SUNY Sullivan as a tutor and Adjunct Professor before she was hired to teach full-time; currently, she is an Associate Professor in the Division of Business and Culinary Arts; her dedication to teaching is reflected in her 2009 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching; and

WHEREAS, Music has always been an integral part of Diane Riegal's life; at the young age of 13, she began to sing and play guitar, as well as write songs; and

WHEREAS, After the tragic September 11, 2001 attacks in New York City, she wrote "Remember Us" to honor the victims of the deadly terrorist assaults; the song has been used by many organizations around the country; in 2011, this heartfelt song was chosen to mark the 10th Anniversary of 9/11 by the American Expat Community and their British Colleagues on the Island of Jersey who lost friends and family at the World Trade Center; and

WHEREAS, Active within her community, Diane Riegal led her marketing class in creating a Facebook page, Think Positive Sullivan County NY, which highlights the county's history, landmarks, organizations and businesses; she is also a member of Proud to Be Sullivan, a local network of businesses and community volunteers who promote the county; in this role, she created a video and new website to continue to promote the county in a positive light; and

WHEREAS, Diane Riegal has been called upon to contribute her time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of herself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her community service, a period of constructive involvement, Diane Riegal has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With her throughout has been her three daughters all of whom feel privileged to be a part of her life and rejoice in her achieve-

ments; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Diane Riegal upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award by The Professional Women of Sullivan County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Diane Riegal.